THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Central investment subsidy reimbursement

*168. SHRI LAJPAT RAI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether some State Governments have sent memoranda to Government for the Central Investment Subsidy reimbursement claim;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether inspite of Supreme Court's decision for grant of Central Investment Subsidy, no action has been taken by Government till date;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) the total amount of Central Investment Subsidy outstanding for Punjab and other States; and

(f) by when a final decision is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT): (a) to (f) Some State Governments have claims under this scheme which are yet to be submitted for reimbursement to the Central Government. The Scheme had ceased to exist on 30-9-1988. Whenever a proposal for reimbursement of subsidy in the light of Hon'ble Supreme Court Order is received, the same is processed for necessary action.

Revival of TCIL

*169. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:
SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "package for Bengal announced", published in the Business Standard, dated 11th February, 1999, regarding Government's decision to revive Tyre Corporation of India Limited (TCIL), which included Industrial Rubber Product (IRP) Unit at Tangra; and

(b) if so, the reasons for forcing a Voluntary Separation Scheme (VSS) on this Unit?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Voluntary Separation Scheme (VSS) which is along the lines of Voluntary retirement scheme is voluntary in nature and cannot be forced on any unit. The Industrial Rubber Product (IRP) (Tangra) unit has been continuously dependant on GOI's Budgetary support for wages and salaries and statutory dues and the operations of the unit did not stabilise even after carrying out essential repairs in 1996. In order to mitigate the hardship of the employees, Government has decided to introudce VSS for the employees of Tangra unit. Goverument have decided to extend by another 3 months the initial offer of Voluntary Separation Scheme (VSS). A group of Experts is being set up to review the possibility of revival.

व्यापार संबंधी बौद्धिक सम्पदा अधिकार समझौते की समीक्षा

*170. **डा० महेश चन्द्र शर्मा:** क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या विश्व व्यापार संगठन की महापरिषद् व्यापार संबंधी बौद्धिक सम्पदा अधिकार समझौते (ट्रिप्स एग्रीमेंट) के विविध प्रावधानों की समीक्षा करने वाली है तथा क्या उनके मंत्रालय ने इस संदर्भ में कोई प्रारंभिक विचार आलेख (प्रिलिमनरी इश्यू पेपर) तैयार किया है;

(ख) क्या संबंधित विशेषज्ञों तथा स्वैच्छिक संगठनों के विचार जानने के लिए यह विचार आलेख उनके पास भेजा गया था;

(ग) इस आलेख की विषयवस्तु क्या है तथा इस विचार आलेख पर मंत्रालय को किस प्रकार की टिप्पणियां प्राप्त हुई हैं; और

(घ) इस संबंध में भावी योजना क्या है?